

5. Nursing homes may request one month payment in advance, at admission. Insurance companies pay on a reimbursement basis. This means it could be 30-60 days after you enter a nursing home (plus any days under your policy's elimination period) before your policy begins to pay. Therefore, you will need enough money to cover these initial days of care.

Example: 60 days x daily cost of care (from '2a on p.9)= _____

6. Insurance will *NOT* cover all of your LTC expenses. Ex: policies typically *do not* cover prescription drugs. Plan to have extra money to pay for items not covered in the policy.
7. **Maximum Benefit** - This is the total number of days or total dollar amount the policy will pay. Choices include a specific # of days (or years), lifetime coverage, or a specific \$ amount.

What would you like for your maximum benefit? _____

OTHER OPTIONS

Self Insuring

This option is most appropriate for persons who are able to invest income and assets over a number of years to cover the costs of long term care. You may wish to speak with a financial consultant or advisor.

Reliance on Medicaid

- a. Persons with limited income and assets should **NOT** purchase LTC
- b. Persons who do not have or cannot get health insurance (possibly due to a health condition) may wish to consult an attorney familiar with Medicaid Law.
- c. To apply for Medicaid services, call your local Office of Family and Children.

Retirement Communities

- a. Continuing Care Retirement Communities offer a range of levels of care from independent apartments to nursing home care. The monthly fee is based on the level of care received.

- b. Life Care Retirement Communities require a person to pay an entrance fee and a monthly fee. Some communities refund all or part of the entrance fee upon death or if the person moves out of the community. The monthly fee does not change even if the person moves into the nursing home. However, it may increase each year due to inflation.
- c. For more information, look under “*retirement communities*” in the yellow pages.

Home Equity Conversion Mortgages

- a. Also called reverse mortgages, home equity conversion mortgages allow homeowners of 62 years of age or older, to borrow against acquired home equity. They receive a loan to generate income to pay for LTC services, LTC insurance premiums, or to help with any other living expenses.
- b. The borrower retains full ownership of their home. There is no repayment of the loan until the person and/or their spouse no longer lives in the home (due to a move, admission to a nursing home, sale, or death).

Information about lenders and these loans may be obtained by contacting your local Housing and Urban Development office or at the HUD internet site:

www.hudhcc.org/agencies/indiana.txt

Community Services

- a. Many communities offer services for seniors. These services can range from assistance with home health care to community-based services, such as: adult day care, meal sites, transportation services, etc.
- b. Funding for these services is generally provided by: Older Americans Act, Social Service Block Grant, Medicaid Waiver, Community and Home Options to Institutional Care for the Elderly (CHOICE), etc.
- c. Eligibility requirements may be based on: age, income, need for medical assistance, or any combination of these.
- d. For more information about community services available in your area and/or eligibility requirements, contact your local Area Agency on Aging at 1-800-986-3505.

Should you have questions about LTC insurance, Medicare, Medicare Supplemental insurance, or Medicaid, **call your local SHIIP site, or call 1-800-452-4800 or 1-317-233-3475 (Indianapolis), or visit us at www.in.gov/idoi/shiip**